

IN RECOGNITION OF SERGEANT  
PAUL EDWARD THORNTON

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2022*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary work of Sergeant Paul Thornton as he retires from a life of public service. He has served the citizens of the State of Texas, in the communities of Houston, Huntsville, and The Colony as a police officer for over 34 years.

Sergeant Thornton began his law enforcement career in 1988 when he was hired as a police officer with the University of Houston Central Campus Police Department. He attended the Harris County Sheriff's Office Academy. Between 1988 and 1992, Sergeant Thornton also worked as a police officer with the Sam Houston State University Police Department and the Walker County Sheriffs Office. During this time he also earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University.

On September 2, 1992, Sergeant Thornton was hired by The Colony Police Department. Just a year later, he was named The Colony PD's "Officer of The Year". In 1995, he became The Colony PD's first and only K9 Officer. He and his K9 colleague, Major, a narcotic detection dog, worked the streets several years combating illegal narcotics.

In 1998, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. After his promotion, he served as both a Night Shift and Day Shift Patrol Sergeant. As a Patrol Sergeant, he has been in charge of the Crossing Guards, Bike Patrol Unit, Traffic Enforcement Division and the departments off-duty employment program. He has also served as the department's Criminal Investigations Supervisor and the Internal Affairs Sergeant.

In 1999, he met the love of his life and wife, Karen Thornton. Karen is a United States Air Force Veteran and holds a Master's Degree from the University of Texas—Austin. Sergeant Thornton and his wife have three children, Alex, Samantha, and Tyler; and two grandchildren, Clayden and Reagan Thornton.

Sergeant Thornton has devoted over 34 years faithfully serving and protecting his community. For more than three decades, he has put strangers' safety above his own, and we are indebted to him. I am deeply grateful for his service to our community and state, and I wish Sergeant Thornton and his family the best in his retirement.

REMEMBERING DOROTHY F.  
MASTERNICK

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2022*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dorothy F. Masternick, who passed away on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at the age of 96. She was a pillar of our community, a servant of others, and an example of how our lives and talents are meant to be shared.

Dorothy was born November 3, 1925, in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, the daughter of

William J. and Annabelle (Onspaugh) Fritz. Dorothy graduated from Beaver Falls High School and Jameson Memorial School of Nursing in New Castle, Pennsylvania.

She worked in a wartime factory as a bomb inspector during WWII while attending nursing school. While working as a registered nurse at North Side Hospital she attended Youngstown State University where she met her future husband, John Masternick. They married on June 25, 1949, and together they co-owned, developed, and operated Windsor House Nursing Homes.

Dorothy was a member of St. Rose Catholic Church and was very active in the catholic community. She served as President of the Youngstown Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, Bishops Advisory Board, Retired Priests Commission, Ohio Catholic Conference, was an advocate of catholic school education, and organized a monthly rosary group. She was especially active in the Cursillo movement which shaped her commitment to care for the elderly in our community with compassion and dignity. Along with her husband, they established the John and Dorothy Masternick Foundation which provides funding to catholic education and scholarships for local high school graduates and nursing students, as well as establishing the nursing simulation laboratory at Youngstown State University.

Dorothy was a natural caregiver and had strong faith. She loved to host Sunday dinner, bridge club and loved to read and paint. After retiring she enjoyed spending time in Florida but her favorite thing to do was to spoil her grandchildren, especially at Christmas.

She leaves to cherish her memory, her children: two sons, Jeffrey (Terri) Masternick, and Atty. John J. (Melissa) Masternick and two daughters, Maria Masternick and Theresa (Leo) Grimes; grandchildren, John Colby Grimes, Daniel (Stacy) Grimes, Ken Grimes, John Michael Masternick, Christopher Masternick, Alyssa Masternick, Kevin (Erica) Pangio, and Amy Pangio; great-grandson, Dean Grimes; nephew, Greg (Cheryl) Hardy; great-niece, Jennifer, and great-nephew, Jason. She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her sister, Mildred Hardy, and her brother, Donald W. Fritz.

RECOGNIZING LANE CHANGE

**HON. VICKY HARTZLER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2022*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding work of a local nonprofit in my district for their commitment to ending substance abuse.

Lane Change was established by Lauren and Cory Mitchell, along with Brad and Stacy Segebarth, after local resident Lane Austin died from a fatal overdose while waiting for an available inpatient drug treatment facility. Within less than three short years, Lane Change has transformed many lives through education, outreach, and prevention in the Lebanon Community. Most importantly, their organization has helped families receive counseling and inpatient treatment for substance abuse through local and regional partnerships. Their network has become a vital resource for

patients and probationary drug offenders, something that did not exist when Lane Austin lost his life over three years ago.

Founder and executive director, Lauren Mitchell, is continually expanding her vision for Lane Change as she recognizes more unmet needs in her community. Her organization does not simply want to treat the symptoms of substance abuse but address the fundamental problems that drive it. Like many programs, their leadership understands that substance abuse is frequently linked with mental illnesses or social trauma in childhood and adolescence, making early intervention crucial to prevention. Lane Change has already outgrown their current facility as they have expanded their program to include a safe place for local students to spend time away from troubled home environments.

None of this would have been possible without the generosity of donors and community volunteers. I am proud of each one and for Lauren Mitchell whose vision and commitment made this nonprofit possible. She has already made a tremendous impact. In the coming years, I look forward to watching Lane Change continue to grow and transform lives in southwest Missouri.

HONORING BLACK HISTORY  
MONTH

**HON. LUCY McBATH**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2022*

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Marjorie Roberts of Johns Creek, Georgia. As we continue our celebration of Black History Month, we recognize Black men and women from throughout the past and present who have made an indelible mark on the story of our nation. I am proud to say that Dr. Roberts is a woman who is doing just that: making her own mark on history by sharing her story and her smile through advocacy on behalf of COVID-19 survivors nationwide.

Dr. Marjorie Roberts grew up the youngest member of her family. In 1980, she gave birth to her daughter, whom she calls her best friend. She is a mother, a wife, and a veteran of the United States Army. She attended Capella University and obtained her Doctorate of Business Administration with a Specialization in Strategy and Innovation in 2014. In 2019, she earned her Life Coaching Certification. She works with clients to achieve progress, reach milestones, and transform their lives.

In March of 2020, Dr. Roberts tested positive for COVID-19. By grace, she survived her initial case of COVID, which included a stay in the hospital. But she is one of the millions of COVID survivors who are considered "long haulers," patients who continue to battle symptoms of the virus for weeks and months after their initial illness. Since then, she has faced health issues that have prevented her from living her life in the same way she did prior to getting COVID-19. In addition to her own challenges, Dr. Roberts also lost a dear friend to COVID-19, Sergeant Gary Mitchell, with whom she served in the Army.

As a COVID-19 survivor and long hauler, Dr. Roberts has made it her life's mission to